Purchasing of Uranium and nuclear reactors

1866. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid or payable to the United States of America (USA) for the purpose of buying Uranium and reactors following Indo-US nuclear deal;

(b) whether any quantity has been received by India from USA or from any other country during the current year;

(c) whether Government has placed any order with USA or any other country for supply of Uranium or reactor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) International agreements on nuclear co-operation have just been concluded with the USA, France and Russian Federation for co-operation in the nuclear field. Commercial agreements for supply of nuclear power reactors with potential vendors are yet to be negotiated. No orders have been placed and no payment has been made.

Quota in coal mine blocks

1867. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving any share or quota to the tribal people in the coal mine blocks in the scheduled areas especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last four years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply at (a) above.

(c) As per the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 only a company registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 is eligible for allocation of coal block for captive purpose for approved end-uses such as generation of power, production of cement, iron and steel, syn-gas and coal liquefaction.

Deocha-Pachami coal reserve

1868. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the distinctive features of the Deocha-Pachami coal reserve in Birbhum district in West Bengal;

(b) whether a Joint Venture (JV) has been formed between National Mining Development Corporation (NMDC) and a West Bengal Government undertaking for mining coal in Deocha-Pachami;

(c) if so, the details thereof;